

Yet, while the population has increased nearly twentyfold over the past century, the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department has always upheld their mission to "ensure fair and equal administration of the law, safeguarding civil liberties and preserving public safety and doing so with professionalism and unity of purpose, while being good stewards of the public's trust."

From the first Okaloosa County Sheriff, Benjamin Haywood Sutton, who initially funded the department with his own money, through to the current Sheriff, Larry Ashley, 15 different men have served as Sheriff, while countless have joined the force as deputies. Each and every one of those selfless men and women chose to stand up and serve their communities as officers of the law, and while they do not ask for any recognition in return, they certainly deserve our gratitude and thanks. There is no greater honor than to swear an oath to our Constitution to serve and protect the lives of your fellow man at the risk of your own either at home or abroad, and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department has shown over its 100 year history that it is dedicated to serving the people of Okaloosa County.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the accomplishments and the service the Okaloosa County Florida Sheriff's Department has provided to the community over the last 100 years.

HONORING COMMUNITY ACTION OF VENTURA COUNTY

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Community Action of Ventura County on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. For five decades, this remarkable organization has promoted economic equality through an array of efforts to combat poverty in Ventura County.

Community Action of Ventura County was established in 1965 under the Economic Opportunity Act, one of the first federal anti-poverty programs in the United States. To this day, the organization's mission continues to be to serve as an auxiliary to assist poverty-stricken citizens in achieving self-sufficiency. Today, the organization has proven its effectiveness by reducing poverty rates across the region, and is a recognized leader among community-based organizations.

The services that Community Action of Ventura County provides to residents of our community have been invaluable in assisting those who live below the poverty line. Serving approximately 8,000 clients every year through impactful programs, Community Action of Ventura County has been instrumental in the effort to reduce poverty and economic inequality in Ventura County. With committed and steadfast board members, staff, and volunteers, all working toward the goal of lifting people out of poverty, this organization positively impacts our community through partnership building and advocacy for measures to help low-income individuals and families survive and rise up above poverty.

In its fifty years of service, Community Action of Ventura County has also implemented

other important programs such as Los Compadres and Successful Living. Los Compadres and Successful Living aim to work with high risk youth by providing mentors and instructional sessions that teach young people to make responsible decisions and achieve economic success. The organization has not only granted financial assistance to the community, they provide resources to those in need to promote upward mobility, be self-sufficient, and lead successful lives.

For these reasons, I am honored to recognize Community Action of Ventura County on their 50th anniversary. It is with sincere gratitude that I commend Community Action of Ventura County for its continued success and service to our community.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY AND JOYCE WESTLAKE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Danny and Joyce Westlake of Prescott, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Danny and Joyce were married on July 10, 1965 in Massena, Iowa.

Danny and Joyce's lifelong commitment to each other and their children Jeanette, Doug, Paul and Pamela, along with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren truly embodies our Iowa values. I commend this devoted couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, in 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed two important programs into law: Medicare and Medicaid.

These two critical programs provide Americans much needed access to healthcare.

They were created out of the truth that healthcare is a right, not a privilege, and no one should fall into poverty due to a lack of healthcare or treatment.

Over the last 50 years, Medicare has helped millions of American families maintain independence and security.

Medicaid provides a health care safety net for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and children and young adults from working families.

For example, in 2013, in my district, Ohio's third congressional district, 85,313 of the residents received Medicare and 173,991 of the residents received Medicaid.

That is why I applaud Governor Kasich for his decision to expand Medicaid in Ohio.

Our path forward should build upon President Johnson's vision by strengthening Medicare and Medicaid, improving essential benefits, and containing costs.

By closing the prescription drug "doughnut hole" and curtailing waste and fraud, the Affordable Care Act lowers costs to beneficiaries and improves benefits.

There are definitely ways to improve Medicare and Medicaid programs, and cut waste, fraud, and abuse.

But, these changes should not be on the backs of our seniors and most vulnerable citizens.

We must work in a bipartisan way to strengthen Medicare and Medicaid and ensure enhanced access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Fifty years later, Medicare and Medicaid continue to save lives, help Americans live healthier, and provide the peace of mind that comes with access to healthcare and treatment.

I will continue to support and improve these two critical programs that are an integral part of our social safety net.

RECOGNIZING MR. RANDY SHAW, KREM 2 NEWS ANCHOR ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Randy Shaw, Spokane's KREM 2 News anchor for his years of service to Eastern Washington. As a broadcast journalist, Mr. Shaw has faithfully served Spokane, Washington and the entire Inland Northwest for over thirty-three years. Mr. Shaw is retiring at the end of September and I am pleased to recognize his accomplishments and contributions to our great community in Eastern Washington.

Throughout his distinguished career, Mr. Randy Shaw covered the presidencies of Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and George H.W. Bush. Reporting overseas in Asia, Africa, and South America, Mr. Shaw received more than three dozen journalism awards and brought a wide range of news into the homes of the people of Eastern Washington.

Making his journalistic debut in newspaper, Mr. Shaw transitioned to radio and television where he spent the majority of his career. During his time in Spokane, Mr. Shaw was awarded a Regional Edward R. Murrow award for investigative reporting and the National Association of Television Arts and Science Silver Circle for his service to our community.

As the longest serving news anchor in Spokane broadcast history, Mr. Shaw worked diligently to ensure that our citizens are well informed. Moreover, he also endeavored to serve local causes throughout our community.

Through the years, Randy supported numerous local charities and fundraising efforts, including the Inland Northwest Honor Flight, the Alzheimer's Association, the Children's Miracle Network, and the American Red Cross. Off camera, Mr. Shaw is an author, explorer, musician, singer and entertainment producer. He integrates these passions into many of his efforts.

I would like to thank Mr. Randy Shaw for his years of dedication to Spokane and to the Inland Northwest. I applaud his commitment to

the citizens of Eastern Washington and wish him the best of luck in the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING THE 51ST PASSAGE
OF THE "FOOD STAMP ACT"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 51st anniversary of the "Food Stamp Act" of 1964, an act that strengthened the agricultural economy and improved levels of nutrition among low income households.

This impactful legislative achievement was passed by the historic 88th Congress of the United States, and signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on August 31, 1964.

During the 1960's our nation was in the midst of the biggest legislative civil rights battle since the ratification of the 14th amendment of the Constitution, which addressed citizenship rights and equal protection under the law.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to imagine that during a time where the country was experiencing its largest uninterrupted period of economic expansion, American families were battling a war on poverty.

Leaders like President Johnson, who himself grew up in a poverty stricken family in Stonewall, Texas, had a firsthand account of these struggles that many American families faced on a daily basis.

President Johnson took action and pursued an agenda, which he called "The Great Society."

The "Food Stamp Act" is a legislative victory for his agenda that benefits those Americans who are living below the poverty line, by providing a sustainable source of food.

The impact of this legislation was simple; it helped put food on tables.

In my city of Houston, Texas, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has helped establish nine major Food Banks that serve the city and its citizens with providing the much needed access to nutrition for families and individuals who otherwise would be unable to afford it without programs created by the "Food Stamp Act."

As President Johnson remarked when he signed this act that it, "weds the best of the humanitarian instincts of the American people with the best of the free enterprise system."

The most important benefactors of this program have been the children of this nation.

The "Food Stamp Act" at the time when it was signed into law assisted 17 million children by giving them access to hot lunches in their schools.

For many of these children this was the first time they had a lunch while at school.

Mr. Speaker, hunger in our nation does not see color or sex or religion. This is a problem that affects us all no matter our background.

While simultaneously strengthening our markets for the farmers, the "Food Stamp Act" has immeasurably improved the volume of retail food sales in our nation and around the world.

Our national food abundance should be continuously used constructively not only to

combat hunger in our communities but also to help other nations through trade as well as to assist them in providing lunches for some 40 million school children throughout the developing world.

Mr. Speaker, this is why I am proud to remember the positive impact that the "Food Stamp Act" has had on our communities, and nation as a whole, along with the millions of lives it has improved over the decades.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM
GRIGGS' SERVICE AS WYAN-
DOTTE CITY CLERK

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Griggs for his forty two years of service to the city of Wyandotte. First elected in 1973, Bill is one of the longest serving public officials in the Downriver communities.

Bill is described by his colleagues as dedicated and kind, and is praised in the community for the dignity and professionalism he has brought to the clerk's office. His presence as a leading voice in Wyandotte has been recognized by generations of residents, and with the dedication of the City Council chambers in his honor will be recognized by many more.

Bill has served as a role model in our community, serving as the director of Wyandotte's adaptive recreation program and on the Board of Directors for the National Wheelchair Athletics Committee. He inspired people with disabilities with his participation in the 1968 and 1972 Paralympics Games, and was inducted into the Michigan Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame in 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor William Griggs for his forty two years of service and his lasting impact on the Wyandotte community. I thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JESSICA
BUTLER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jessica Butler for her service to my office and the 21st Congressional District of California over the past two and a half years.

Ms. Butler was born in Wharton, Texas to Robert and Carol Butler and spent her youth in Bay City, Texas with her siblings, Sarah and Sam. After completing her high school education, Ms. Butler studied poultry science and food safety at Texas A&M University and Auburn University.

After college, Jessica accepted a Fellowship with Congressman DEVIN NUNES through the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Federation of Animal Science Societies. Her work in Mr. NUNES' office led her to discover her passion for policy. After completing her fellowship, she joined my office

as my Legislative Assistant and became one of the few individuals who can say they worked for every Portuguese Republican from California in the House of Representatives. During her time in my office, she handled several legislative portfolios, including agriculture, energy, healthcare, homeland security, immigration, trade, and water. Last year, she was promoted to Legislative Director and handled my work on the Appropriations committee.

On August 1, 2015, Ms. Butler's time in my office will come to an end. Ms. Butler is returning to Texas, where she will marry Mr. Nathan Russell, a nuclear plant operator who has loved her since their freshman year of high school, on September 19, 2015. While I know her family will be happy to have her back in the Lone Star State, she will be greatly missed as a member of my team.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Jessica Butler for her public service to the people of the Central Valley and wishing her well in this next chapter of her life.

TO HONOR THE TEXAS JOB CORPS
GRADUATES

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of the recent graduates of the Texas Job Corps Centers.

The four Job Corps centers in Texas have served the people of our great state for over 50 years, providing a no-cost education and career technical training program that helps young Texans from ages 16 to 24 improve the quality of their lives through career technical and academic training.

By graduating from the Job Corps, these young men and women have proven that they have skills and determination to succeed and be valuable contributors to communities throughout Texas and the country.

On behalf of the people of the 29th Congressional District of Texas, I would like to congratulate the 2015 Job Corps graduates of all four centers in our state—David L. Carrasco Job Corps, Gary Job Corps, Laredo Job Corps, and North Texas Job Corps.

I would also like to recognize the Texas Job Corps for their half century of success and say thank you for the service the Job Corps Program and its graduates have provided to Texas.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIRE-
MENT OF ADMIRAL JAMES A.
WINNEFELD, JR.

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., who is retiring July 31, 2015, after serving with distinction for more than 37 years, culminating